

Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-19

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NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03

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APPROVED BY ACDA/IR:DLINEBAUGH
EUR/RPM:VLEHOVICH
PM:VBAKER (INFORMED)
NSC:MPOWER
OSD/ISA:RBARTHOLOMEW
DOD:COL.LAFFERTY (INFORMED)
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TO USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY VIENNA IMMEDIATE
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 211409

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, NATO
SUBJECT: MBFR DATA: NATO TOE/OB CONFERENCE

REF: A. USNATO 5063 B. USNATO 5064 C. STATE 207385
D. STATE 209532 E. STATE 209615 F. NATO 5098

FOR US MBFR DEL VIENNA

1. REFERENCE F CORRECTLY RECOGNIZES THAT THE TERMS OF
REFERENCE ON THE RECENT NATO TOE/OB CONFERENCE (MC 224/73)
DID NOT FOCUS ON KINDS OF FIGURES NOW NEEDED FOR INFORMING
THE PUBLIC AND NEGOTIATING WITH THE EAST. FIGURES AND
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PERCEPTIONS GENERATED BY CONFERENCE, WHILE VALUABLE IN

IMPROVING DETAILED UNDERSTANDING OF WARSAW PACT FORCES AND ORGANIZATION, CANNOT BE USED DIRECTLY TO GENERATE THE AGGREGATE FIGURES APPLICABLE IN THE MBFR CONTEXT.

2. TO ILLUSTRATE, THE FOCUS OF THE CONFERENCE WAS ON SOVIET TABLES OF ORGANIZATION FOR ALL TYPES OF UNITS. ALTHOUGH DISCUSSION INCLUDED COMBAT DIVISIONS OF NSWP NATIONS, THE NON-SOVIET FORCES WERE NOT FULLY TREATED. NSWP SUPPORT UNITS WERE NOT ADDRESSED IN ANY WAY, AND ACTUAL STRENGTHS OF NSWP DIVISIONS WERE NOT DEVELOPED. STRENGTHS FOR NSWP DIVISIONS WERE THEORETICAL WAR TIME TOE LEVELS.

3. FURTHER, AT THE TIME OF THE CONFERENCE, THE USG WAS IN THE FINAL STAGES OF REVIEWING ITS OWN HOLDINGS FOR REAR SERVICES IN THE GSFG. FYI: THUS, WHILE THE US DELEGATES TO NATO TOE/OB CONFERENCE HAD ACCESS TO BEST U.S. DATA AVAILABLE AT THE TIME, THEY WERE NOT IN A POSITION TO RELEASE THE FINDINGS OF THE LATEST US ANALYSIS TRANSMITTED TO USNATO IN REFERENCE C. END FYI.

4. WHILE NONE OF THE CONFERENCE FIGURES (MC 224/73) FOR NON-SOVIET EAST EUROPEAN GROUND FORCES ARE IN ANY WAY COMPARABLE TO US FIGURES, OWING TO THE FACTORS IN PARAGRAPHS 2 AND 3, ABOVE, THE US FIGURE OF 460,000 GIVEN TO THE ALLIANCE IN REFERENCE C, AND D FOR TOTAL SOVIET GROUND FORCES IN THE NGA CAN BE RECONCILED WITH THE MC 224 DRAFT AS FOLLOWS:

US FIGURES MC 224/73 (DRAFT)

GSFG IN EAST GERMANY 360,000 (A) 351,140

CGF IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA 70,000 (B) 80,790 - 70,880

NGF IN POLAND 30,000 (C) 31,500

(A) US GSFG DATA IS IN AGREEMENT WITH MC 224/73 WHEN THE RESULTS OF OUR US REANALYSIS OF FRONT AND ARMY LEVEL REAR SERVICES IS ADDED TO THE MC 224/73 FIGURES AS OUTLINED IN REFERENCE C. THIS REFERENCE SHOULD ANSWER QUESTIONS
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RAISED IN PARA 4, REFERENCE F.

(B) THE LOWER MC 224/73 FIGURE FOR CGF (70,880) IS IN AGREEMENT WITH US DATA WHICH DOES NOT HOLD A SIXTH SOVIET DIVISION IN CGF.

(C) THE MC 224/73 AND US DATA FOR NGF ARE IN BASIC AGREEMENT.

5. THE GSFG FIGURE IN PARAGRAPH 4 ABOVE SHOULD NOT BECOME A CONTENTIOUS ISSUE. IF ALLIES RAISE QUESTION, YOU SHOULD DRAW ON EXPLANATION IN PARA 6 (A), STATE 207385 IN SUPPORT OF US FIGURE. IF A DEADLOCK WOULD OTHERWISE OCCUR YOU MAY ACCEPT SUITABLE COMPROMISE, SUCH AS, 355,000 AND THEN ASSURE THAT TOTALS ARE APPROPRIATELY ADJUSTED. YOU SHOULD NOT, RPT NOT, ACCEPT HIGHER FIGURE (80,790) IN MC 224/73 (DRAFT) FOR CGF IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA. LATTER IMPLIES PRESENCE OF 6 SOVIET DIVISIONS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA, WHICH US DOES NOT ACCEPT.

6. ASSUMPTIONS AND DATA USED BY US DELEGATES AT THE MC 224 CONFERENCE DIFFERED FOR THESE REASONS:

(1) FINAL RESULTS OF GSFG REAR SERVICES REANALYSIS WERE NOT AVAILABLE.

(2) CONFERENCE DELEGATES WERE BOUND BY MC 161/73 HOLDING OF 5-6 DIVISIONS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA. US DATA DOES NOT INCLUDE A SIXTH DIVISION.

(3) TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR TOE/OB CONFERENCE SPECIFIED DETERMINING ORDER OF BATTLE AND STRENGTH FIGURES ONLY FOR SOVIET FORCES IN NGA.

7. DATA ON NATO GROUND FORCES (REQUESTED PARAS 5-6, REF F) COMING SEPTEL. KISSINGER

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